Destinations and key dates for the final year

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Support to date

- Full **careers day** in July 2026
- **Assemblies** from Nescot, Chessington Sixth Form, Hollyfield Sixth Form and Esher College
- Network South Rail assembly on apprenticeships
- Took part in a **virtual work experience** for a career of their choice in July 2026
- **Deadlines for open events have been shared** with the students by Mr Davey
- **Careers interviews** began in Year 10 with careers advisor

Support upcoming

- **Assemblies** from Kingston College (October)
- **Careers interviews** continue in Year 11
- Destinations information collected at **tutor level**, and one to one **discussions** about chosen pathway
- **Tutor sessions/PDW sessions** on writing personal statements and application form completion

Overview of post-GCSE options

Young people aged 16 to 18 must stay in education or training:

- A Levels
- Vocational Qualifications (BTECs, NVQs)
- Apprenticeships
- Employment

A Levels vs. vocational qualifications

A Levels: Academic focus, university preparation.

Vocational qualifications: Practical skills, career readiness.

Each option will suit different student strengths and career aspirations.

Understanding apprenticeships

An apprenticeship is a practical training program that combines on-the-job experience with classroom learning.

Benefits of apprenticeships:

- **Real-world experience:** Apprentices gain hands-on experience, making them job-ready
- **Earning while learning:** Apprentices receive a salary, reducing the financial burden of further education
- **Career progression:** Many apprentices go on to secure full-time positions with their employers
- **Industry recognition:** Apprenticeships are recognised qualifications that employers value

Understanding apprenticeships

Levels of apprenticeships:

- **Level 2 Apprenticeships:**
  - Equivalent to GCSEs.
  - Suitable for those entering the workforce or looking to gain basic skills in a trade.
- **Level 3 Apprenticeships:**
  - Equivalent to A-levels.
  - Designed for those wanting to deepen their expertise or take on supervisory roles.
- **Higher and Degree Apprenticeships:**
  - Level 4 and above, including university-level qualifications.

College and Sixth Form applications

It is important to have an **aspirational choice**, and a **realistic choice**.

Attend open events and get a feel of the college and Sixth Form.

Speak to course leaders - what will the course entail? What grades are needed at GCSE to get a place on the course?

Write a professional application - sell yourself, give detail.

College and Sixth Form Open Evenings

College/Sixth form	Date & time
Chessington Sixth Form	Thursday 5th November, 6.00-7.30pm
Hollyfield Sixth Form	Thursday 12th November, 6.00-8.00pm, apply by 15th January
Kingston College	Saturday 3rd October, 10.00am-1.00pm
Nescot College (Epsom)	Saturday 10th October 10.00-2.00pm & Wednesday 18th November 4.30-7.30pm
Richmond upon Thames College (Twickenham)	Wednesday 4th March, 4.00-7.00pm
Esher Sixth Form College	Open day was in June, however contact them directly if you still wish to apply or book on a tour

Key dates and timelines

Deadlines for Sixth Form and college **applications vary**. You will need to check the providers **websites** for further information.

Deadlines will also be shared with you at the providers **open events**.

Do not leave applications to the last minute. Most applications will require a **school reference**.

Applications should be **proofread** before submitting.

Key dates and timelines

Date	Event
Parents Evening (in person)	Thursday 15th October 2026
3-4th Nov (inset days)	Year 11 in school. Science and English mocks and revision
After school intervention starts	w/c 9th November
Mock exams fortnight	w/c 16th November (all other subjects)
Mock results morning	Tuesday 5th January 2027
Reports home	Tuesday 5th January 2027
Invite only Parents Evening	Thursday 21st January 2027
Mock exams fortnight	w/c 8th February (week before and after half term)
Reports home	Monday 15th March 2027
GCSE exams begin	w/c 3th May - w/c 21st June
Prom	Friday 25th June 2027, 7.00-10.00
Results Day	Thursday 19th August 2027

Approaching the real thing...

- After the Easter holidays revision timetables commence.
- Normal school day timings.
- Regular timetable stops, subject specific double revision sessions begin
- Not “study leave”
- Attendance is still compulsory

Support for students

Booster sessions begin after half term. Please encourage your child to attend these small group sessions.

Careers interviews for all students in Year 11 with a trained careers advisor.

Half term, and Easter holiday **interventions** will be offered.

Summary

- Sixth Form and college open evenings have now started
- Application deadlines can be found at the open events or on the providers website
- Ensure an aspirational choice and a realistic choice
- Revision is key to ensure you get the grades
- Open communication between parents, students and school staff is essential so we can support your child

Contact information for further questions:

Head of Year 11, Mr Lucas clucas@chessington.kingston.sch.uk

Deputy Headteacher, Ms Jacob kjacob@chessington.kingston.sch.uk